

60,130-1952; 03MRA0379

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An axle and suspension element combination comprising:
an axle extended between lateral ends and having upper and lower surfaces and sides extending between said upper and lower surfaces;
a suspension element attachable to a vehicle frame;
said suspension element being secured to said axle by a clamp including a securement member to secure said clamp, and hold said suspension element on said axle, said securement member being positioned on at least one side of said axle; and
said securement member being positioned within a vertical extent of said axle, and between said upper and lower surfaces, and said securement member movable in a direction to secure said clamp, said direction having at least a component in a lateral direction.
2. (Original) A combination as set forth in claim 1, wherein said securement member is a threaded member.
3. (Currently Amended) A combination as set forth in claim 2, wherein a set of said clamp and said threaded member ~~s~~ is arranged on each of said sides of said axle.
4. (Currently Amended) An axle and suspension element combination as set forth in claim 2, wherein comprising:
an axle extended between lateral ends and having upper and lower surfaces and sides extending between said upper and lower surfaces;
a suspension element attachable to a vehicle frame;
said suspension element being secured to said axle by a clamp including a securement member to secure said clamp, and hold said suspension element on said axle, said securement member being positioned on at least one side of said axle;
said securement member is a threaded member; and
said clamp includes two spaced clamp halves, and said threaded member extends through both of said two spaced clamp halves, said suspension element being supported in at least one

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frame member, said at least one frame member secured to said axle by said two spaced clamp halves.

5. (Original) A combination as set forth in claim 4, wherein said two spaced clamp halves have angled surfaces that move along mating angled surfaces on said at least one frame member to cam said at least one frame member onto said axle.

6. (Currently Amended) A combination as set forth in claim 5, including ~~wherein there is also a second frame member, said second frame member also having angled surfaces, with said angled surfaces on said two spaced clamp halves camming both said frame members toward each other.~~

7. (Original) A combination as set forth in claim 6, wherein a vertical extent of said second frame member extends beyond a vertical extent of said two spaced clamp halves.

8. (Original) A combination as set forth in claim 6, wherein said two spaced clamp halves are movable relative to said axle.

9. (Currently Amended) A combination as set forth in claim ~~4~~1, wherein said securement member is positioned within a vertical extent of said axle, and between said upper and lower surfaces.

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10. (Original) An axle and suspension element combination comprising:
an axle extended between lateral ends and having upper and lower surfaces and two sides extending between said upper and lower surfaces;
a suspension element attachable to a vehicle frame; and
said suspension element being secured to said axle by a clamp on each of said sides, said clamps each including two spaced clamp halves, with a threaded member extending through both of said spaced clamp halves and on each of said sides, said suspension element being supported in at least one frame member, said clamps securing said at least one frame member to said axle.
11. (Currently Amended) A combination as set forth in claim 10, wherein said two spaced clamp halves have angled surfaces that move along mating angled surfaces on said at least one frame member to cam said at least one frame member onto said axle.
12. (Original) A combination as set forth in claim 11, wherein there is also a second frame member, said second frame member also having angled surfaces, with said angled surfaces on said spaced clamp halves camming both said frame members toward each other.
13. (Currently Amended) A combination as set forth in claim 12, wherein a vertical extent of said second frame member extends beyond a vertical extent of said two spaced clamp halves.
14. (Currently Amended) A combination as set forth in claim 12, wherein said two spaced clamp halves are movable relative to said axle.
15. (New) A combination as set forth in claim 1, wherein said securement member is tightened to secure said clamp directly along said lateral direction.